



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: October 14, 2008

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Recreation Division, Parks and Recreation Department

SUBJECT: Interview And Appointment Of Youth Intern Applicant To Park And Recreation Commission

RECOMMENDATION: That Council:

- A. Interview applicant Diego Torres-Santos for the position of Youth Intern on the Park and Recreation Commission; and
- B. Request that Mayor Blum appoint Diego Torres-Santos to the position of Youth Intern on the Park and Recreation Commission.

DISCUSSION:

On February 7, 1995, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 95-025 that established a Youth Intern Program for Charter Boards and Commissions. The Resolution was established to expand the opportunities for City youth residents to participate in the City's governmental and advisory role process.

On June 6, 2000, Council adopted Resolution 00-044 rescinding Resolution No. 95-025. The new resolution extended the Youth Intern Program to high school student volunteers who reside within the Santa Barbara High School District or attend other high schools within the City limits. Participating students will learn how public decisions are made and how City departments function, while participating in community service that may qualify for academic credit.

Staff received an application with recommendations from Diego Torres-Santos requesting appointment to the Park and Recreation Commission as a Youth Intern.

Diego Torres-Santos

Diego Torres-Santos is a junior at San Marcos High School with strong leadership ability and a strong academic standing. Diego is known for his excellent communication skills and his infectious smile and friendly attitude. Diego lists community service as one of his extracurricular activities, exhibiting his strong interest in community and his commitment to working with youth and adults. Diego holds a 3.38 academic G.P.A. in a

rigorous course of study, and manages to participate in his school's Track and Field and the Royal Knights Choir Club.

Diego is known for his excellent work ethic, respectful demeanor, and positive attitude in challenging situations. He is highly recommended by his counselor who states that Diego is extremely dedicated and enthusiastic, but most of all, "a caring and compassionate young man with a strong moral compass."

Recently appointed to the Santa Barbara Youth Council, Diego is already making strides on the Council and taking a lead in many of its subcommittees.

The Park and Recreation Commission continues to express appreciation for the contributions of past youth interns and is looking forward to the appointment of another youth on their Commission.

Staff is confident that Diego Torres-Santos will fulfill his obligations as Youth Intern on the Commission.

ATTACHMENT(S): 1. Intern Application
 2. Letter of Recommendation

PREPARED BY: Susan C. Young, Recreation Supervisor

SUBMITTED BY: Nancy L. Rapp, Parks and Recreation Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office

YOUTH INTERN APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO CITY ADVISORY GROUP

Parks & Recreation Department
TEEN PROGRAMS DIVISION
P.O. Box 1990
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 897-2650

Name: Diego Torres - Santos Grade: 11 Age: 16
Residence: 1207 castilla st #A City: Santa Barbara Zip: 93101
Email Address: diego193101@yahoo.com High School: San Marcos High
Parent/Guardian: Josephine Torres Phone Number: 965-7183
Emergency Contact: Patricia Alvarez Phone Number: 455-9161
High School: San Marcos High Recommender: _____

I. Advisory Body/Commission Applied for (list them in order of preference)

1. Parks & Recreation 2. _____ 3. _____

Are you able to provide the two-hour commitment per month? Yes ☒ No ☐

Are you active in any clubs on campus? Yes ☒ No ☐ If yes, please list: Royal Knights a mens
choir club

III. Extracurricular activities (On & Off Campus) Sing on my own time, do community services, part of the
youth council, swim, part of fall program named AHA!, Sports.

IV. Reasons you believe you should be appointed to this group (Please use separate page.)

Recommender's Signature S. E. Castellanos Date: 9/15/08

I have read Resolution No. 95-025 of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara and if appointed, will follow it in the conduct of my duties.

Applicant's Signature Diego & Santos Date: 9/10/08

Date Received: _____ Date distributed to Mayor /Council offices: _____

Dates Interviewed: _____

If appointed: Date: _____ Term Expires: _____

IV. Reasons you believe you should be appointed to this group?

I feel I should be appointed to this group because I care about my community today and show leadership that I could contribute to this commission as the youth intern. I am presently part of the youth council and this opportunity for me to join would be great. I show commitment to everything I have to do and am very honorably. I can speak both English and Spanish as well. I show great communications with others and enjoying working together with youths and community leaders. As well I enjoying organizing and believe in making a safe community for adults and future youths today. In conclusion The Parks and Recs commission would be a great commission to be a part and would be a great opportunity for me to serve as a youth intern.



SAN MARCOS HIGH SCHOOL ATTACHMENT 2

CALIFORNIA DISTINGUISHED SCHOOL 1994 & 2005

September 15, 2008

Craig Morgan – Principal
Ed Behrens – Assistant Principal
Jennifer Foster – Assistant Principal
Roxanna Stern – Assistant Principal
Dave Scott – Teacher on Special Assignment
Abe Jahadmy – Athletics Director
Erik Nielsen – Head Counselor

Santa Barbara Parks & Recreation Commission
Re: Diego Torres-Santos

Esteemed Selection Committee:

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter of recommendation for Mr. Diego Torres-Santos as a candidate to be selected for the Santa Barbara Parks & Recreation Commission. As a counselor, I often work with many outstanding students. Diego is most certainly one of the best students I have encountered in my career. I have known Diego for almost three years as his Guidance Counselor and Advisor.

Diego is an excellent student. Diego is in good standing academically, he has no discipline problems and his attendance is satisfactory. Diego has excellent promise for success in college. He carries a 3.38 academic G.P.A. in a rigorous course of study. He has an excellent work ethic. Diego has excellent communication skills and he has experience in public speaking. He has all the necessary skills to make a significant contribution as a member of the Santa Barbara Parks & Recreation Commission.

Diego is a bright, focused, hardworking, and determined student who is committed to excellence. Diego is of the utmost character and personal integrity. Diego is a friendly, polite, caring, respectful, and driven individual who is well-liked and respected by his peers as well as his teachers. Throughout his high school career, Diego has participated in several activities; however, his primary extracurricular activity has been Track & Field. Diego has participated in his school's Track program for two years with distinction. In his community, Diego currently is a member of the Santa Barbara Youth Council in which he has shown excellent leadership skills. What impresses me the most about Diego is how he never gives up, no matter how difficult the challenge is and he always gives his best effort in everything he does.

Diego is an extremely dedicated and enthusiastic student, a proven scholar/athlete, but above all he is a caring and compassionate young man with a strong moral compass. There is no doubt in my mind that Diego is exactly the type of student you are looking for.

Without hesitation, I enthusiastically endorse Diego Torres-Santos as a candidate for selection to the Santa Barbara Parks & Recreation Commission.

If you need further information please do not hesitate to contact me at 805 967-4581, ext. 215 or email me at scastellanos@sbsdk12.org

Sincerely,

Sergio E. Castellanos, M.S.
Guidance Counselor

California Distinguished School

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